

**ABSTRACT**

Method and apparatus for a distributed switching system supporting a plurality of services. A service request is initiated by an initiating customer. The service request is then executed using, for example, a user-to-network interface setup. A terminating setup is then performed to either accept or reject the requested service. Multiple service requests are correlated with respective services to enable at least one appropriate policy and logic. Data related to the requested service is obtained using at least one of a push procedure, a pull procedure, a query procedure, and a procedure in which requests are associated with the issuance of certificates